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Hurricane coverage:

1 — Government ill-equipped to monitor industrial plants damaged by Hurricane Harvey, Houston Chronicle, 9/6/2017

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Government-ill-equipped-to-monitor-industrial-12178805.php>

More than a dozen Texas chemical and refining plants reported damaged storage tanks, ruptured containment systems and malfunctioning pressure relief valves as a result of Hurricane Harvey, portending safety problems that might not become apparent for months or years, according to a Houston Chronicle review of regulatory filings.

2 — EPA Last Inspected Flooded Arkema Plant in 2003, BNA, 9/6/2017

<https://www.bna.com/epa-last-inspected-n73014464222/>

It's been 14 years since EPA inspectors last visited an Arkema Corp. facility in Crosby, Texas, that saw chemical explosions caused by flooding from Hurricane Harvey, a company official told Bloomberg BNA.

3 — In Harvey's wake, critics see big money behind lax petrochemical reporting, Texas Tribune, 9/7/2017

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/09/07/harveys-wake-critics-see-big-money-behind-lax-petrochemical-reporting/>

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, an exploding chemical plant and spikes in cancer-causing emissions are highlighting how little the public knows about potential dangers from the oil and chemical industries. Critics say one reason for the darkness: tons of campaign money.

4 — EDITORIAL: Let Crosby be a lesson: Chemical plants need to reveal their inventories, Houston Chronicle, 9/6/2017

<http://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/editorials/article/Let-Crosby-be-a-lesson-Chemical-plants-need-to-12178284.php>

Crosby is a community where people are accustomed to living around industrial plants, but now even these usually tolerant Texans are downright mad about the catastrophe caused by a chemical plant explosion that happened in the middle of the biggest natural disaster in their town's history.

5 — Receding Floodwaters Expose Long-Term Health Risks After Harvey, Bloomberg, 9/7/2017

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-09-07/receding-floodwaters-expose-long-term-health-risks-after-harvey>

Benzene churns through Houston's economy. The clear, sweet-smelling chemical is found in the crude oil processed in the region's refineries and is used to make plastic, pesticides and other products.

6 — A week after Harvey left Texas, some areas still under water, San Antonio Express-

News, 9/6/2017

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/texas/article/A-week-after-Harvey-left-Texas-some-areas-still-12174993.php>

Floodwaters from Harvey are steadily receding in some of the worst-hit areas of Texas, but many parts of Houston and East Texas remain under water nearly a week after the storm's final Texas blows. (photo gallery)

7 — A year before Harvey, Houston-area flood control chief saw no "looming issues", Texas Tribune, 9/7/17

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/09/07/conversation-former-harris-county-flood-control-chief/>

Experts say the flooding in the Houston region could have wreaked far less havoc if local officials had made different decisions over the last several decades. But the former head of a key flood control agency strongly disagreed with that take in an interview last year.

8 — EPA says Houston-area oil spill cleaned up, AP, 9/6/17

http://www.wacotrib.com/news/ap_texas/the-latest-epa-says-houston-area-oil-spill-cleaned-up/article_dfe41536-7ecd-5ad2-9af7-d3e0b26fddb4.html

A spokeswoman for the Environmental Protection Agency says a 2,500-gallon oil spill linked to Harvey's strike on the Houston area has been cleaned up.

9 — Air Monitors Tracking Benzene, Other Pollutants, In Post-Harvey Manchester, Houston Press, 9/7/17

<http://www.houstonpress.com/news/air-monitors-tracking-large-benzene-emissions-in-manchester-air-pollution-in-east-houston-post-harvey-9767002>

Hurricane Harvey was nasty enough in its own right, but it's becoming increasingly apparent the catastrophic storm is also behind a significant amount of air pollution coming from refineries and petrochemical plants in the storm's path.

10 — Texas to launch air attack to combat mosquitoes in wake of Hurricane Harvey, KRIS, 9/6/17

<http://www.kristv.com/story/36305332/texas-to-launch-air-attack-to-combat-mosquitoes-in-wake-of-hurricane-harvey>

To address increasing numbers of mosquitoes created from the rain left behind by Hurricane Harvey, and the risk they pose to the recovery effort and public health, the Texas Department of State Health Services has activated its contract for aerial mosquito control.

11 — See where Superfund sites are in the Greater Houston area, Houston Chronicle, 9/7/17

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/See-where-Superfund-sites-are-in-the-Greater-12177396.php>

Some of the most contaminated, polluted land in the U.S. is probably within driving distance from your house, the EPA reports. (photo gallery)

Other news:

12 — Hurricanes and floods not the only thing hampering recovery in Texas, Southwest Farm Press, 9/7/17

<http://www.southwestfarmpress.com/insects/hurricanes-and-floods-not-only-thing->

[hampering-recovery-texas](#)

Officials in Houston and Baytown and as far south down the coast as the Port of Corpus Christi are warning of the dangers from standing water and polluted tributaries near the coast. Environmental officials warn of the possibility that bays and channels are contaminated from sunken vessels or barges.

13 — In 'Gasland' community, new tests revive old drilling debate, San Antonio Express-News, 9/7/17

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/business/energy/article/In-Gasland-community-new-tests-revive-old-12179595.php>

Questions surrounding Dimock's groundwater have yet to be resolved — and the federal government is back for the first time in more than five years to investigate ongoing claims of contamination. Public health experts visited 25 homes last month to test for bacteria, gases and chemicals.

14 — How Hurricane Harvey's floodwaters could harm coral reefs in Gulf of Mexico, Dallas Morning News, 9/7/17

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/harvey/2017/09/07/hurricane-harveys-floodwaters-harm-coral-reefs-gulf-mexico>

As Hurricane Harvey's floodwaters recede across Texas and Louisiana, they may soon affect another vulnerable community: the coral reefs in the Gulf of Mexico.